Erickson Educational Foundation

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

NEWSLETTER

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THE NEW FOUNDATION STYLE

". . . There has developed in this country a degree of public blandness which does us no credit. Neither in business, nor in the professions, nor in government, is there enough encouragement to independent activities by young men. The 'organization man' is not merely a slick phrase. He is a growing menace to us . . . Foundations ought to stand against this kind of thing. They should begin by encouraging both variety and energy of expression in their own staffs. They should put a premium in diversity in their grant-making and be ready to give a hand to the unorthodox . . . They should contribute in as many ways as they properly can to honest public discussion of issues which are controversial."

McGeorge Bundy, Director of the Ford Foundation
FORTUNE, April 1968

AVANT GARDE IN CONCEPT

The Erickson Educational Foundation is proud to have anticipated Mr. Bundy's counsel. In 1964, this Foundation was established by Reed Erickson to assist where human potential was limited by physical, mental or social conditions, or where scope of research was too new, controversial or imaginative to encourage traditionally oriented support.

Reflecting this concept is the newest member of our Advisory Board, Rev. Ted McIlvenna, director of the Glide Foundation Urban Center, Glide Methodist Church, San Francisco, and founder of the rapidly expanding Council on Religion and the Homophile.

SEX AND GENDER ROLE RESEARCH — Psychosexual Research

Although millions of Americans have serious gender identity problems, little top level research was being done. EEF initiated and supported the Harry Benjamin Foundation in order to assist pioneer Harry Benjamin, M.D., endocrinologist, and his associates in their work with transsexual and transvestite patients.

Lecturing before medical groups at leading universities and hospitals through the country and in many articles, Dr. Benjamin stressed the vital need of enlightenment among allied as well as the medical disciplines.

The Transsexual Phenomenon by Dr. Benjamin (Julian Press, 1966) was the first scientific report on 15 years study of hundreds of patients and on the sex conversion operation then not yet performed in the United States.

"A CHANGING OF SEX BY SURGERY BEGUN AT JOHNS HOPKINS"

This N.Y. Times headline Nov. 21, 1966, was one of many that startled the American public. The Gender Identity Clinic at this major medical center had quietly started its work with transsexuals and the related cases of the Hermaphrodite and the Klinefelder syndrome. EEF helped support the committee, cooperating with John Money, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Medical Psychology and Pediatrics, as well as the surgical team at Johns Hopkins.

The first patients were referred through the Harry Benjamin Foundation after thorough testing, treatment and counseling indicated the operation was the only solution to the unendurable condition of sex variance. Thousands of poignant letters followed the news of hope for the alienated person who felt imprisoned in the wrong external sex role (body), spotlighting the need for further research and treatment facilities throughout the country.

Clinical psychologist John G. Brennan, formerly of Wellington, New Zealand, is currently at Johns Hopkins working on the psychology of transsexualism, under EEF grant, collecting and evaluating research data at the Gender Identity Clinic.

It is gratifying to know that several other large medical centers have now initiated the study of transsexualism and the performance of the conversion operation.

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES MEETING

In January, 1967, in the Division of Psychology, the following papers were presented and later published in the February 1967 issue of the Academy's Transactions:

The Transsexual Phenomenon by Harry Benjamin

The Endocrine Status of the Transsexual Patient by Herbert S. Kupperman

A Report of the Sexual Histories of Twenty-Five Transsexuals by Wardell B. Pomeroy

Vernal Aptitude in Eonism and Prepubertal Effeminacy by John Money and Ralph Epstein

Psychological Testing of Transsexuals: A Brief Report of the Results from the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, the Thematic Apperception Test, and the House-Tree-Person Test by Ruth Rae Doorbar

Transsexual Gynecological Aspects by Leo Wollman

The Transsexual Patient: A Problem in Self-Perception by Henry Guze

IMPORTANT NEW BOOKS

Transsexualism and Sex Reassignment, edited by John Money and Richard Green, introduction by Harry Benjamin and preface by Reed Erickson (Johns Hopkins Press, summer 1968), will be the first serious medical and scientific survey of research in the field, with contributors from England, Sweden and the U.S. An EEF grant initiated and supported this book.

Sex Errors of the Body: Dilemmas, Education and Counseling, by John Money (Johns Hopkins Press, 1968), will also be a major scientific contribution, with acknowledgment to EEF.

Sex and Gender: On the Development of Masculinity and Femininity, by Robert Stoller (Science House, 1968). Dr. Stoller bases his book on 85 psychoanalytical case histories at the U.C.L.A. Gender Research Clinic and, as Dr. Harold Lief reviewed: ". . . substantiates the work of the Hopkins group."

SCIENTIFIC PAPERS — Psychohormonal Research Unit, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

The following papers are in process of publication under EEF grant:

Fetal Androgens and Female Gender Identity in the Early-treated Adrenogenital Syndrome. Ehrhardt, Epstein and Money. (The Johns Hopkins Medical Journal)

Fetal Feminization Induced by Androgen Insensitivity in the Testicular Feminizing Syndrome: Effect on Marriage and Maternalism. Money, Ehrhardt and Masica.

When Males Behave as Mothers. Animal Studies and Human Transsexuals. Primrose and Money. (Sexology)

Influence of Androgen and Some Aspects of Sexually Dimorphic Behavior in Women with the Late-treated Adrenogenital Syndrome. Ehrhardt, Evers and Money.

Psychologic Approach to Psychosexual Misidentity with Elective Mutism: Sex Reassignment in Two Cases of Hyperadrenocortical Hermaphroditism. Money. (Clinical Pediatrics)

Sexual Dimorphism and Homosexual Gender Identity. Money.

In addition, Dr. Money has made a number of presentations on lecture platforms, panel discussions, radio and TV. A recent meeting of the Baltimore City Medical Society featured a panel of all members of the Gender Identity Clinic and a male transsexual.

LET THE PUBLIC BE INFORMED

agrees Dr. Leo Wollman, medical associate in Dr. Benjamin's transsexual practice and active publicist. He has been interviewed on radio and TV programs in Boston, Davenport, Iowa, Dayton, Philadelphia and New York, and has addressed a number of medical staffs and societies. Interviewed by Tele-Media, Dr. Wollman made a special tape on transsexualism available to psychiatrists by telephone. He recently visited Dr. Georges Burou, Casablanca, Morocco, internationally renowned specialist in the conversion operation.

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN RESOURCES, Los Angeles

Another foundation initiated and supported by EEF has three projects now in process:

A Textbook on Counseling the Homosexual by W. Dorr Legg

Based on case records of more than 4,000 male female homosexuals since 1952.

Bibliography on Homosexuality

A preliminary brochure was published in 1967, presenting reports and projections. The bibliography format was demonstrated in an initial limited issue, based on 36 titles. Hundreds of volumes remain to be annotated, organized and cross referenced by J. M. Underwood. When completed, this will be an essential tool for any serious research in the field.

Questionnaire Project

Nearing publication is a comprehensive report: Attitudes Survey and Sociological Data for 388 North American Male Homosexuals. In addition to 21 basic physical, psycho-social data classifications, each subdivided into 11 frequency distributions, a number of special tables were prepared and included.

The Institute has established a lecture bureau and is cooperating with educational and law enforcement training programs as well as church organizations.

U.S. VISIT OF ANTONY GREY, London

Cooperating with ONE, Inc., EEF helped sponsor the speaking tour of Antony Grey, barrister and executive director of the Albany Trust and the Homosexual Law Reform Society. He was described by an M.P. as the one man most responsible for having the Wolfenden Report based Sex Law Reform Act passed by Parliament.

After fulfilling more than 25 lecture, TV and radio engagements in a 3-week nationwide tour, Mr. Grey reported that the EEF office had "organized me into six of the most crowded days of my life, in New York. . . ." On Channel 13 Newsfront program, he was interviewed with Lady Gaitskell, who had staunchly supported passage of the controversial bill.

VISUAL IMAGERY RESEARCH PROJECT

Experimental work is now under way on this new EEF project directed by R. E. L. Masters and Jean Houston, Ph.D. Visual imagery and other altered states of consciousness phenomena are being elicited by sensory input reduction, sensory overload, hypnosis, and other means. Laboratory facilities include a sensory deprivation chamber and a unique "electro-lumia environment" especially designed for the project by pioneer lumia artist Don Snyder and associated electronics specialists. Also, the Hypnotron, developed by Earle Ballentine, physicist, and Dr. Bernard Gindes, psychiatrist, reported in March 22, 1968, issue of LIFE, is being completed for use.

Masters and Houston, authors of **The Varieties of Psychedelic Experience,** have published a new book, **Psychedelic Art.** This book is a study of the effects of drug-induced and other altered states of consciousness upon creative processes. Data from earlier Masters-Houston studies of drug-state (and also dream) imagery will be integrated with findings from the present visual imagery research project.

RESEARCH OF WILLIAM GUTMAN, M.D.

Dr. Gutman, author of **Prolongation of Life,** and president of the International Homeopathic Medical Research Council, has approached the air pollution and respiratory disease situation — which appear closely allied — with the development of a desensitizing agent against the effect of air pollution. Results to date are encouraging in the treatment of respiratory diseases.

With the assistance of the International Influenza Laboratories of the World Health Organization, Dr. Gutman is working on the use of oral vaccine against influenza.

WIDE SPECTRUM OF CREATIVITY RESEARCH

In our interest in the scope of mental processes, EEF has sponsored the presentation of two papers by Stanley Krippner, Ph.D., noted educational researcher and Research Director of the Dream Laboratories of Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Creativity and Consciousness
National Association for Gifted Children, 1968 Convention, Chicago

Language Processes and Psychedelic Experience
1968 International Conference on General Semantics, Denver

Study of the development of creative thinking and sexual identity is another area of EEF concern. In our society, many expressions of creativity are identified as feminine. Dr. Charles Bahn, Associate Professor of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, is undertaking a pilot study to explore the extent to which creative capacity and thinking and sexual identity interact.

EEF SPEAKERS BUREAU

To enlighten interested groups in the areas of our concerns, a speakers bureau has been established with Dr. Leo Wollman as chairman. Philip Hoh, former executive director of EEF, has volunteered to serve although he is now involved elsewhere.

RELOCATION OF NEW YORK OFFICES

The Erickson Educational Foundation is now located in Suite 4E, 41 Fifth Avenue, New York 10003. Phone: (212) 228-6760. Our good neighbors are psychotherapists Marie Baldridge, Dr. William O. Erwin and Dr. Peter Dubno.

So much professional interest in our work has been manifested that seminar programs are being considered in various disciplines as part of our educational program. Activities of the New York office are being handled by Zelda R. Suplee, Assistant Director.

Dr. Harry Benjamin has started on a limited sabbatical during which time his transsexual practice will be handled by Dr. Leo Wollman at 983 Park Avenue, New York City.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This review of EEF activities presents not only a report of progress but expresses our appreciation of the efforts of the individuals who have contributed to his progress.

Limited funds made it impossible to compensate fully these dedicated individuals, so we are hoping that increased financial help will contribute to the further study and fruition of the work to which they are devoted. We would like to express our appreciation for the contributions of Mrs. Knight Lavender, Baton Rouge, La., the City National Bank of Baton Rouge, and other generous donors.

Further information and details on available tapes, articles and reprints can be obtained by writing the New York office of EEF.

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